

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Advisory Action dated October 8, 2003, Claims 1-9 and 11-18 remain in this application.

Claim 10 has been canceled.

Claim 13 has been amended.

The Examiner has not made it clear in the Advisory Action dated October 8, 2003 whether the Amendment under 1.116 filed on September 8, 2003 has been entered. Therefore, Applicants hereby request that the Amendment under 1.116 filed on September 8, 2003 be entered, for the record. Additionally, this Preliminary Amendment is drafted with the assumption that the Amendment under 1.116 will be entered.

Claim Rejections

The Advisory Action dated October 8, 2003 indicates that claims 10, and 13-18 have not overcome the rejections under 35 USC 102(e) because "there is no support for the limitations of claim 10 and 13 in the earlier filed applications."

Applicants hereby cancel claim 10, without prejudice, and amend claim 13 to overcome this rejection.

Summary

In view of the foregoing corrections and remarks, it is felt that the rejection of the claims under 35 USC 102(e) have been overcome. Therefore, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested and allowance of the application is earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that this amendment or any petitions or requests contained in this amendment raise new issues, the undersigned would greatly appreciate a telephone call from the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,



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